

**MSU Research Council
Draft Recommendations to the Strategic Planning Committee**

February 17, 2012

Proposed Mission Statement for Research at MSU:

MSU will promote excellence in research, discovery, creativity and the innovation enterprise in order to advance the frontiers of knowledge and art, thereby enhancing our student's learning experience and building a prosperous and sustainable future for Montana and the world.

Proposed Vision Statement for Research at MSU:

MSU will be known nationally and internationally for integrating learning, discovery and engagement in ways that provide new scientific information, unique creative expression, and real-world solutions to complex challenges. Located in the Rocky Mountains, we draw on our spectacular setting for research, education, and inspiration to educate the next generations.

PRINCIPAL GOAL:

Increase MSU Prominence: Increase the regional, national and international prominence of MSU in research, creativity, innovation, and scholarly accomplishments

Metrics:

- Increased competitive funding
- Selected to be members of the national academies (currently none)
- Increase number of Society Fellows
- Discipline-related awards
- Number and quality of peer-reviewed publications including impact assessment
- National and international presentations, exhibitions, performances
- Museum-level exhibitions
- Inclusion of work as subject in texts and review articles
- Technology transfer related activities for faculty members
- Participation on Editorial Boards
- Increased engagement of new arts audiences, performances at significant venues, original musical compositions

Proposed Strategies:

Strategy #1: Promote Interdisciplinary Collaborations and Individual Excellence: Invest in areas where MSU has existing or potential strengths and impacts while being opportunistic with additional investments

Metrics:

- Increased international recognition of interdisciplinary research programs.
- Increased numbers and funding levels of interdisciplinary collaborations.
- Increased numbers of centers and/or programs, and growth of existing programs.
- Increased numbers of faculty with joint appointments.

- Increased number and impact of publications with cross-disciplinary co-authors.
- Increased number and quality of PhD students pursuing dissertation work in interdisciplinary themes.
- Increased number of undergraduate and graduate students performing interdisciplinary research.
- Increased undergraduate student participation in interdisciplinary programs.
- Increased number of grants and contracts to individual PIs.
- Increased number and impact of publications with MSU authorship.
- Increased private support of the research enterprise.
- Increase number of endowed Chairs.

Strategy #2: Enhancing Student Learning Experiences by Integration of Discovery and Engagement

Metrics:

- Increased numbers of students serving as co-authors on peer-reviewed publications and presentations at national meetings.
- Increased number of students exhibiting creative works
- Increased numbers of awards for undergraduate researchers.
- Increased number of undergraduate co-authors on publications.
- Increased completion of capstone projects, undergraduate theses, and other appropriate products.
- Increased quality and number of PhD's.
- Improved job placement after earning degrees at both the undergraduate and the graduate levels.
- Increased numbers of highly qualified students participating in research.
- Graduate student awards, e.g. travel advances, competitive fellowships, posters/presentations awards

Strategy #3: Strengthening Partnerships

Metrics:

- Increased partnerships with other universities and national labs.
- Increased partnerships with the private sector.
- Increased external funding for collaborative efforts.
- Increased opportunities for student training and employment.
- Increased numbers of publications by MSU co-authors with external collaborators.